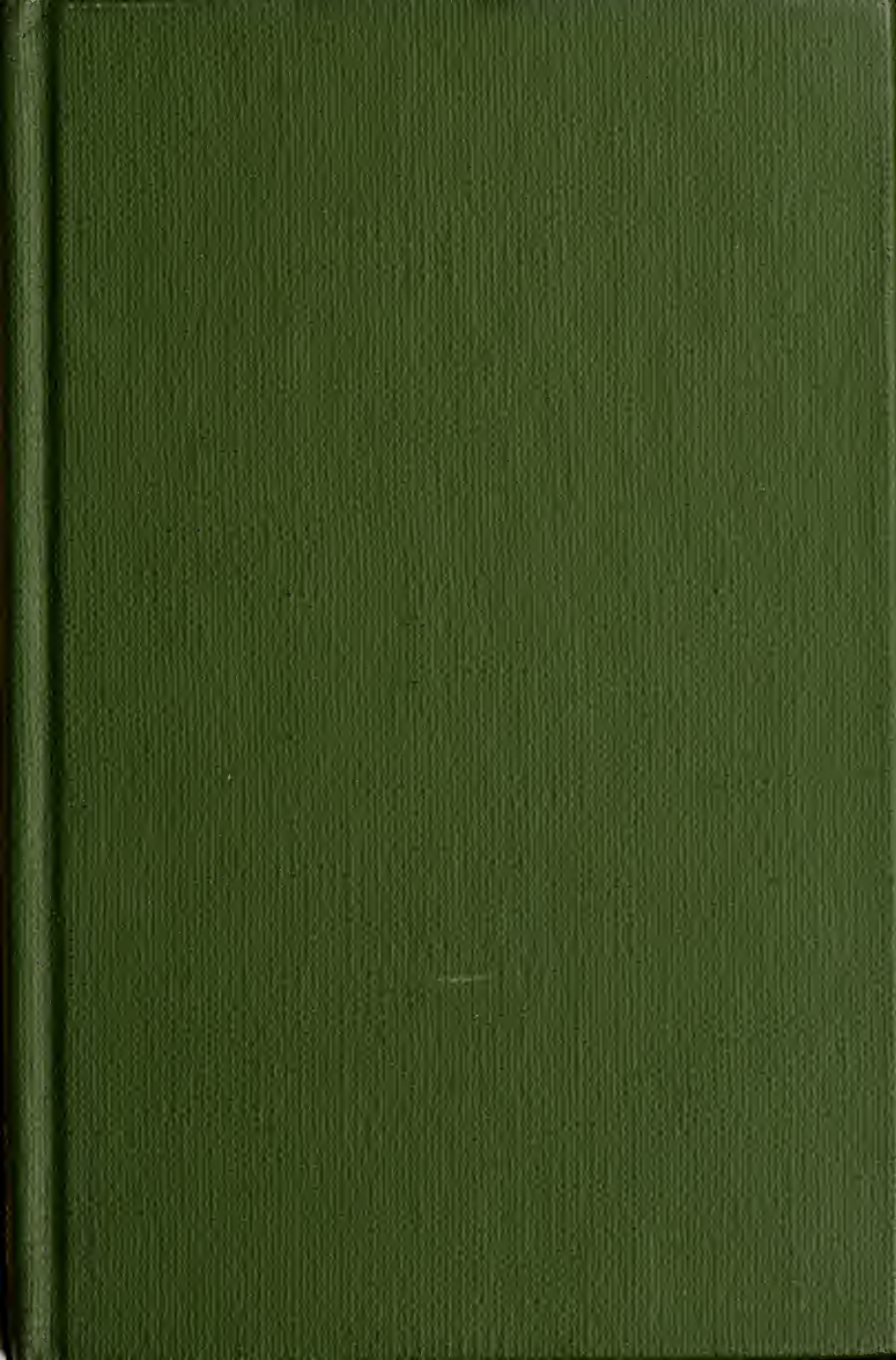




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“Let all unite, for the benefit of all, in placing upon record and preserving a recollection of our remote beginnings. Posterity will thank us for the labor, and the older the record grows the more value will they place upon it.”—Welch.

1765850

ONE LINE
OF THE
BURRITT FAMILY.

1. William from Wales.
2. John, b. ———.
3. Joseph, b., 12 Mar. 1685,
4. Samuel, b., 1729.
5. Joseph, 9 Aug., 1758.
6. Joseph, b. 21 Aug., 1795.
7. Charles D. Burritt, b. 29 May,
1823.
8. Mary Lord Burritt Foster, b., 1848.
9. Jesse W. Foster, b. 1880.

Compiled By Mary L. Foster.

WEST HILL PRESS,
ITHACA, NEW YORK.
1898.





JOSEPH BURRITT.



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THE BURRITT FAMILY.

He who has traveled in Wales delights to have memory linger, not only on the beautiful hills and charming vales, but among those old ruins which make fair Wales so famous. Those remains of Roman encampments, hill fortresses, castles, castellated mansions and specimens of antique military architecture. And still memory loves to linger on the charming valley of Glamorganshire, so famed for its picturesqueness, and owing to its great fertility, often called "the garden of Wales." It is a section of country having to do with most ancient history way back in the days of the Romans.

Glamorganshire was inhabited by the Silures, which in succeeding ages was an independent principality, but was in 1083 overrun and divided by some of William's Norman nobles. About the time of the Conquest, and not long after the period of the revocation of the edict of Nantes, there was a great importation of new names into England and Wales. It was at this time that Barrat was first found in their nomenclature, a name that since became modified, some families retaining the old form, but others making changes, until the Barrat of centuries ago has become the Burritt of today. The surname Barrat was one of characteristic, and it meant the "cunning." Not in the sense of craftiness, but having reference to their skill in doing things. In looking over the history of the old time Barrats, so

many have been found to be watch-makers, jewelers and skilled workers, that it would seem that they still retain the ancient cunning that gave them their surname, way back in the early days following the Conquest.

As early as 1550, a scholar at Cambridge spelled his name both Barret and Baret, being known later as a distinguished traveller, and author of a tripple dictionary in English, Latin and French, which he entitled an "Alvearie," as the materials were collected of his pupils in their daily exercise, like so many diligent bees, gathering honey to their hive. This book appeared in 1573. The author died in 1580.

In 1801, in Nottinghamshire, we find one Zachariah spelling his surname Barratt;—still the cunning, as he that year

invented a wonderful machine for grinding grain, either by water, wind, horse, hand or otherwise. Seventeen years after (1818), this same Zachariah had changed his name to Barrat.

In 1776, we find still another spelling, Geo. Barret. He was one of the Vice Presidents of the Society of Artists in Great Britain, as incorporated entitled as follows:—"The Society of Artists of Great Britain." Arms; upon a field azure a brush, a chisel, and a pair of compasses composed fretty, or: over them in chief a regal crown, proper: supporters, on the Dexter side, Britannia; on the sinister, Concord; crest on a wreath, an oak branch and a palm branch in saltire, in the center of which a chaplet of laurel. That same George received a prize of 50 guineas for his landscape painting.

In another line we find Thomas Barret a principal officer to his highness Omdul Omrah, nabob of Arcot and its dependencies, who died at his palace of Chempau^k.

We find also a James in Saffron Walden, who spelled his name Barrett, an iron monger who had received patents; and so it seems that whether Barat, Baret, Barrat, Barret, Baret, Burritt or Burrett, there has ran through all branches the cunning handiwork which originally gave to the family their name.

This change in the orthography of a name was nothing unusual. Today, frequently, we find different branches of the same family spelling their names differently; [Farley has had eleven different spellings] as instance in Ayoub we recognize the name Job, Abraham in Ibra-

him, Solomon in Souleimon. When learned men in Germany wrote Rheabem and Zitkias, and in France, Roboam and Sedecios [Rehoboam and Zedekiah] they both mean to designate the same two individuals, viz., the son of Solomon and the last king of Judah. The common ancestor of the Burritt family in America was William Burritt of Glamorganshire, Wales, who settled, with his wife Elizabeth, in Stratford, Connecticut, where he was one of the earliest settlers, and where he died in the year 1651. John W. Thompson, the historian of Stratford, states that the inventory of his estate, May 28th, 1651, amounted to £140. His relict Elizabeth died in 1681, and the history makes mention of three children as follows :—

- i. Stephen, Lieutenant, m, Jan 28, 1673-4, Sarah, daughter of Isaac Nichols : d. 1697-8 ; had eight children.
2. ii. JOHN.
- iii. Mary, m.—Smith.

JOHN[2].

John, son of Wm. and Elizabeth Burritt, m. 1st, Deborah Barlow, May 1, 1684. He married, 2nd, Hannah Beach, widow of Zechariah Fairchild, May 5, 1708. He d. Feb. 1. 1726-7. He had—

3. JOSEPH, b. March 12, 1685

TRIBE OF JOSEPH BURRITT (3) AND MARY WAKELEY.

Joseph, son of John (2) and Deborah (Barlow) Burritt, m. Nov. 25, 1708, Mary Wakeley. Her grandfather, Henry Wakeley, was among Stratford's first settlers. He had six children, James, Deliverance, Jacob, Abigail, who married John Beardsley, Patience, who married Timothy Titterton, Mary and Mercy. Either Mary or Mercy married Samuel Gregory.

Deliverance, Dec., 3, 1678, m. Hannah Nash, and their sixth child, Mary, b. 3 March, 1688-9, became the wife of Joseph, 3. Hannah Nash was the daughter of Edward Nash of Stratford. She was born Jan. 18, 1651.

The children of Joseph Burritt and Mary Wakeley are as follows :—

- i. John, b. Sept. 7, 1709.
- ii. Hannah, b. Dec. 3, 1711; m. Israel Beach.
- iii. Joseph, b. June 23, 1719.
- iv. Deborah, b. Sept. 21, 1714; d. Jan. 4, 1716-17.
- v. Deborah, b. Feb. 3, 1716-17.
- vi. Mary, b. Sept. 22, 1721.
- vii. Nathan, bapt. May 13, 1721.
- viii. William }
ix. Ebenezer } b. Dec. 28, 1726.
4. x. SAMUEL, bapt. Nov., 1729.

TRIBE OF SAMUEL BURRITT [4] AND MERCY BURTON.

Samuel, son of Joseph and Mary (Wakeley) Burritt, m. Mercy Burton, in 1757.

Solomon Burton married Mercy, dau. of Jeremiah Judson, Aug. 1, 1687. She was born in 1665, and her 3d child was Judson, who married Eunice Lewis, 9 January, 1721. Among the 11 children mentioned was Mercy, who married Samuel Burritt. Eunice Lewis, wife of Judson Burton, was the 11th child of Benjamin Lewis, the first of the name in Stratford. He married there Hannah, daugh-

ter of Sergeant John Curtiss, and settled at Wallingford, and returned to Stratford about 1675. She died in 1728, aged 74.

The children of Samuel Burritt and Mercy Burton were as follows:—

5. i. JOSEPH, b. Aug. 9, 1758.

ii. Eunice, b. Dec. 21, 1760.

iii. Nathan, b. June 6, 1763; m.

Sarah—, 1791.

iv. Ann Mary, b. July, 1770.

TRIBE OF JOSEPH BURRITT [5]
AND SALLY UFFORD.

Joseph (5), was born at Stratford, Ct., and served as a private in the War of the Revolution. His full term of service, according to the pension application entered by his widow, was 17 months and 15 days. A portion of this service was under Captain George Benjamin, in Col. Samuel Whiting's Brigade. He died Oct. 3, 1830. His widow made application for pension on Oct. 14, 1836, at which time she was 74 years of age and residing at Stratford.

Thomas Ufford came from England in 1632 with his wife Isabel and three child-



JOSEPH BURRITT.

EDWIN J. BURRITT.

JOSEPH C. BURRITT.

EDWIN C. BURRITT.

TRIBE OF JOSEPH BURRITT [6]
AND ASENATH CURTISS.

Joseph (6), b. Aug. 21, 1795, served a long apprenticeship to a watch repairer and silversmith at East Haven, Ct., who was a master of his calling. Here was constructed the tower clock which still marks the flight of time at Yale College. Here was also built and repaired the mathematical, optical and nautical instruments for all that country round about. Mr. Burritt thus became a proficient workman. June 17, 1816, he was married to Asenath Curtiss of East Haven, and in October of the same year, they left Stratford, Ct., in a one horse wagon, for Ithaca, N. Y., where they arrived after a journey of ten days. Here he entered

CHILDREN OF JOSEPH BUR- RITT [5] AND SARAH UFFORD.

- i. Samuel, b. Dec. 18, 1778.
- ii. Ann Mercy, b. July 18, 1781; m. William Peet.
- iii. Sally, b. March 4, 1783; m. Isaac Brooks, Aug 17, 1800.
- iv. David, b. Jan. 7, 1785; m. Anna Wells, Oct. 28, 1807.
- v. James, b. Jan. 11, 1787; m. Betsey—, April 8, 1812.
- vi. Isaac, b. June 1, 1789; had three wives; m. 1st, July 29, 1811.
- vii. Joseph, b. Feb. 9, 1791.
- viii. Julia, b. Nov. 16, 1792; died young.
6. ix. JOSEPH, b. Aug. 21, 1795.

Martha Nettleton of Branford, and had eight children. Samuel, b. 21 January, 1670, afterwards Lieutenant, married Elizabeth Curtiss, Dec. 4, 1694. He died in 1746, aged 77 years. Lieut. Samuel and Elizabeth Curtiss his wife had 13 children. The youngest, Ebenezer, b. 1719, m. Nov. 17, 1743, Jane Moss, dau. of John and Jane Moss. They had Mehitabel, Samuel and Sarah; and Sarah, b. Feb. 19, 1760, m. Joseph Burritt 1778.

dren in the ship *Lion*, and landed at Boston, where he was made a freeman that same year. He was in Milford as early as January, 1645, where he and his wife Isabel joined the church in that place. He died in Stratford in 1660, leaving an estate of £189, 12s, 7p. Had three children; Thomas, John and a daughter, who married Roger Terrell. the children being born in England. Thomas owned land in Wethersfield in 1641, and he married there Frances, daughter of the first Thomas Kilborne, who outlived him, and her estate was divided in January, 1684. His estate amounted to £1834.

John, son of Thomas and Isabella Ufford, married 1st, Hannah Hawley, sister of Joseph Hawley, who came from Parwick, Derbyshire, England, and landed near Boston, Mass., in 1629; and 2nd

into partnership with Wm. P. Burdick with whom he was associated in business for nearly a quarter of a century. He was a member of the Aurora street M. E. church for over fifty years, and most of that time an official; for long the oldest living member of No. 2 fire company; a Free Mason; an overseer of the poor; a trustee of the village and academy, and director of the Tompkins county National Bank; for some thirty years treasurer of the Ithaca Mechanics' Society. He was twice married, his 2nd wife being Lucinda, widow of Mr. Vandyke of Covert, N. Y. The organ of the jeweler's trade, the *Jeweler's Record*, in 1883, claimed for Mr. Burritt that he was the oldest living jeweler in the United States. He died March 9, 1889. His 2nd wife died Feb. 2, 1867.

CHILDREN OF JOSEPH BURRITT
[6]

By 1st wife Asenath Curtiss :—

- i. Joseph Curtiss, b. Jan. 26, 1817.
- ii. Mary Ann, b. Dec. 15, 1819;
d. March 20, 1821.
- iii. Susan Jane, b. Sept. 20, 1821.
- 7. iv. CHARLES David, b. May 29, '23.
- v. William Henry, b. Nov. 27,
1824; d. March 12, 1825.
- vi. Mary Ann, b. June 29, 1826.
- vii. Benjamin, b. Aug. 27, 1828; d.
Sept. 9, 1828.

viii. Caroline Amanda, b. Sept. 12,
1829.

ix. Sarah Cornelia, b. June 19, 1833.

x. Frances Maria, b. May 7, 1838.

By wife Lucinda :—

ix. Amelia Eliza, b. Jan. 24, 1848.

JOSEPH CURTISS BURRITT [7].

Joseph (7) entered into partnership with his father in the jewelry business May 1, 1838. He was one of the five trustees appointed to incorporate the second Methodist church of Ithaca in 1851, and remained a useful member to the day of his death. He was twice married; 1st to Hetty Maria Lord, daughter of Harley Lord, Jan. 30, 1839; 2nd, Julia Atwater, daughter of Leonard Atwater of Ithaca, Jan. 7, 1875. He died May 22, 1889.

DESCENDANTS OF JOSEPH [7].

By first wife :—

- i. Ellen Maria, b. Jan, 1, 1841, m.
William Henry Willson, July 11,
1860, and had—

1. Fred William, b. Nov. 20,
1862.

2. Herbert George, b. May 16,
1865; m. Oct. 2, 1889,
Donna Louise, daughter of
Wm. Freer of Ithaca.

3. Carrie Bell, b. Nov. 21, 1870,
d. Oct. 24, 1872.

ii. Edwin Joseph (8), b. Sept. 17, 1843, by trade a jeweller, m. Sep. 29, 1864, Louisa Minerva, daughter of John D. Weed. They had—

1. Edwin Charles (9). b. April 5, 1866, a jeweler by trade, m. April 22, 1896, Lilla dau. of Samuel Kennen. They had—

a. Frances Louise, b. Sept. 5, 1897.

iii. Hetty Eliza, b. May 14, 1847; m. 1st, Jan. 1, 1864, Ogden Hoffman Hall. He was born April 10, 1845, and died Jan. 10, 1871. She m. 2nd, Henry Townley, Oct. 30, 1873. She died Jan. 8, 1888. Children by first husband :

1. Lizzie Sinclair Hall b. Jan. 28, 1865; d. May 28, 1868.



ELLEN BURRITT WILLSON.

2. William Burritt Hall, b. Feb. 19, 1866. He was educated in Boston as a musician, afterward completing his studies in Paris; m. Feb. 26, '91, Alice West Fielder, of Dansville, N. Y., b. July 11, 1866. They had:—

- a. Edward Fielder, b. June 18 1892.
- b. Harold Glenn, b. May 16, 1894.

By second husband:—

3. Hettie Bell Townley, b. Sept. 3, 1874.

iv. Caroline Augusta, b. June 30, 1851, m. Jan. 28, 1873, Edgar Avery Atwater, of Ithaca. They later moved to Manchester, Iowa. They had:—

1. Horace Burritt, b. Feb. 17,
1874.

2. Laura Ellen b. 2 March,
1876, m. June 9, 1897,
Jesse Floyd Jackson, of
Manchester, Iowa.

3. Florence Bell, b. Apr. 27,
1879.

Joseph C. Burritt (7) had, by second
wife, Julia Atwater:—

v. Joseph Atwater (8), b. June 6,
1876, by trade a jeweler.



SUSAN BURRITT GAUNTLETT.

DESCENDANTS OF SUSAN JANE
BURRITT (7) AND JOHN P.
GAUNTLETT.

Susan Jane, daughter of Joseph Burritt (6) and Asenath Curtiss. m. March 7, 1839, John P. Gauntlett, who came from Portsmouth, England. She d. March 30, 1853. They had:—

- i. Jane Asenath, b. May 12, 1840; d. Nov. 13, 1858.
- ii. John Charles b. July 22, 1842, m. Oct. 16, 1879, Mary Celestia, daughter of Joseph McGraw of Ithaca, b. July 24, 1848. They had:—

1. Anna Jane, b. Oct. 20, 1880.

2. John McGraw, b. Oct. 22,
1882.

3. Minna Celestia, b. Nov. 23,
1884.

iii. Mary Olivia, b. Sept. 1, 1845; m.
Arthur Benjamin Brooks, of Ith-
aca, a descendant of Sally Burritt
(6) and Isaac Brooks of Stratford,
Ct. They were married Sept. 22,
1870, and had:—

a. Alfred Charles, b. July 28,
1871.

b. John Gauntlett, b. Aug. 26,
1874.

Feb. 14, 1854, John P. Gauntlett m, 2nd
Mary Jane, daughter of George Burritt
of Stratford, Ct. He was a son of David
Burritt (6). John Gauntlett d. May 8.
1879. They had:—



JOHN C. GAUNTLETT.



MARY BURRITT GAUNTLETT.

1. Katherine, b. Feb. 28, 1865,
who m. Ira Place, Jan. 10,
1893, and had :—

a. Katherine, b. Oct. 3,
1893.

b. Herman Gauntlett, b.
Nov. 16, 1894.

c. Willard Fiske, b. June
5, 1896.

CHARLES D. BURRITT [7].

Charles David Burritt (7), b. May 29, 1823, united with the First Methodist Church of Ithaca, N. Y., under the labors of Rev. Schuyler Hoes. in January, 1841. Soon after he went to college at Middletown, Ct., and in 1843 he graduated as Bachelor of Science. During the following winter he returned to Middletown as tutor, and remained until August, 1845, and having completed his course of study in the languages, was admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He ranked high in Mathematics. He had calls to teach in five different institutions of learning, but



REV. CHARLES D. BURRITT.

felt that he was called to preach the gospel, and accordingly, in 1844, he joined the Oneida Conference. His first pastorate was at McGrawville, and succeeding ones at Skaneateles, Norwich, Ithaca, Cazenovia, and again at Ithaca, remaining the full term two years, at each, except at Norwich, and Ithaca the second time. He was eminently a successful preacher, and wherever he labored, revivals were witnessed. In the spring of 1850, he, with others, resolved that the time had arrived for the formation of a new society in Ithaca. A Sunday school was accordingly started, in the part of town where the church was to be located, followed by a class, of which the leader was Mr. George Young. Finally, on the evening of the third of February, 1851, the Second Methodist Church of Ithaca

was incorporated. In 1855, on account of failing health, he was obliged to leave the ministry, and in August of that year he moved to Delaware, Ohio, to become President of the Wesleyan Female Seminary. The following February he was compelled to resign, and returned to Ithaca, where he died, at his father's, Mr. Joseph Burritt's, on Wednesday, May 7, 1856, at a quarter past eleven in the morning, aged 32 years, 11 months, 8 days. The funeral was Friday, at 2 o'clock. He was twice married; first, August 27, 1844, to Jerusha Webster Lord, daughter of Harley Lord, who d. Feb. 17, 1854, at Cazenovia. He m. second, Orpha Iantha Randall, daughter of Joshua Randall of Camden, N. Y., Nov. 19, 1854.

Children by wife Jerusha W. Lord:



MARY LORD BURRITT FOSTER.

- i. Mary Eliza, b. at Middletown, Ct.,
May 31, 1845, d. Aug. 9, 1845.
- ii. Charles Paddock, b. July, 1847, at
Havana, N. Y., d. Aug., 1847.
- iii. Mary Lord (8), b. Sept. 7, 1848,
at Skaneateles, N. Y. On the
death of her father, she went to
live with her grandparents, Mr.
and Mrs. Lord, and her aunt Mrs.
Herrick, with whom she remained
most of the time until her mar-
riage, living successively in Dans-
ville N. Y., Lyons Iowa, Maquo-
keta Iowa and Ithaca N Y. July
14, 1874, she m. George E. Foster
of Milford, N. H., and had :—
 - i. Jesse Webster Foster, b. 11
Feb., 1880.
- iv. Emma Eliza, b. Oct.. 1850, d Aug.
1851.

Charles D. Burritt had, by 2nd wife,
Orpha I. Randall :—

v. Charles Randall (8), b. Oct. 8,
1855, at Delaware, Ohio. He be-
came a jeweler, and m. Sept. 19,
1883, Emma Presher, of Ithaca,
and is residing at Canestota, N.
Y. They had :—

1. Nina May, b. May 2, 1885,
at Ithaca, N. Y.
2. Edna, b. July 26, 1888, at
Sayre. Pa

MARY ANN BURRITT. [7]

Mary Ann Burritt (7), b. June 29, 1826, m. 1st, May 1, 1851, Ellsworth S. VanHoesen, who d. Dec. 29, 1853. She m. 2nd, Charles W. Smith, March 17, 1859; he d. Dec. 10, 1887. She d. Dec. 12, 1892. No issue.

DESCENDANTS OF CAROLINE A.
BURRITT [7].

Caroline Amanda Burritt (7), m. Horace Augustus Merriam, Sept. 20, 1853. He d. August. 3, 1879. She d. Jan. 4, 1893. They had :—

- i. Charles Burritt (8), b. June 4, 1854
d. Sep. 3, 1854.
- ii. Franklin Asbury (8), b. June 7,
1857, m. Feb. 6, 1891, Eva
Belle, daughter of William H.
Sickles, of Newark, N. J. Mr.

Merriam was an employee in the office of the Ithaca, N. Y. "Journal," and afterwards took an editorial position on the "Argus", Mount Vernon, N. Y. becoming, in 1897, one of the proprietors.

- iii. Ella Bell (8), b. Dec. 8, 1859. m. Dec. 16, 1879. Theodorus Van Wyck, of Mount Vernon. They had :—

1. Harold Van Wyck. (9), b. July 14, 1882.

- iv. Frederic Lincoln (8), b. July 9, 1865, m. 10 June, 1897, Lillian Eugenia, daughter of Lorin Clark of Mount Vernon, N. Y. Mr. Merriam is a clerk in the New York Central Depot.

SARAH CORNELIA BURRITT. [7]

Sarah Cornelia (7) m. Jan. 11, 1854,
Charles F. Williams. She d. Oct. 4, 1868.

They had :—

1. Cornelia F. (8), b Oct. 4, 1868,
unmarried, and a teacher in the
public schools of Ithaca, N. Y.



CHARLES R. BURRITT.

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unmarried, and a teacher in the
public schools of Ithaca, N. Y.



FRANCES BURRITT KENNEDY.

FRANCES MARIA BURRITT [7].

Frances Maria (7) m. April 14, 1859,
Laurence P. Kennedy. She d.
April 2, 1894, aged 55. They
had :—

1. Alvah Burritt Kennedy (8), b. 17
March, 1864, a jeweller by
trade, m. May 30, 1895, Nellie
Grace, daughter of Prof. Works
of the Wesleyan Seminary at
Lima, N. Y. They reside in Ith-
aca, N. Y. They had ;—

a. David Works, b. Feb. 19,
1897, d. March 27, 1897.

DESCENDANTS OF AMELIA
ELIZA BURRITT [7] AND GEORGE
E. PRIEST.

Amelia Eliza (7) m. Oct. 22, 1865,
George E. Priest, who has for many years
been connected with the Ithaca "Journal."
He has shown unexceptional talent as its
editor, and has conducted the political
columns of his paper with ability and
shrewdness. He has had the satisfaction
of seeing his paper take high place in in-
terior city journalism. They had:—

1. Louise V. (8), b. at Ithaca, Sept. 1,
1867, m. Edward E. Ingalls, of
Ithaca, March 22, 1887.



GEO. E. PRIEST, EDITOR OF ITHACA JOURNAL.



AMELIA BURRITT PRIEST.

2. Jesse E. (8), b. at Ithaca, Jan 2, 1870, m. April 8, 1890, Wm. T. Armstrong of Mount Vernon, N. Y., who for some years has been local editor of the Ithaca "Journal" and correspondent for the New York "Sun" and other metropolitan papers.
3. Maud Winifred (8), b. at Ithaca, Sept. 1, 1877.



A REFLECTION

In concluding the record of this single branch of the descendants of William, who came to this country from Glamorganshire, it is of interest to note the irreproachable standing of the family through the various generations. Their record has been one of industry. They have been religiously inclined, and often active in church work. The family do not forget that the immortal Elihu was of the same ancestral blood. Indeed, the same indomitable pluck that he displayed in gaining his education has manifested itself in many members of the several branches of the family in this country. Indeed, in our own branch it was well illustrated by the early struggles of that pioneer jeweller and watchmaker in Ithaca, Joseph Burritt;

and was further evidenced in the zealous labors of his son, Rev. Chas. D., whose zeal for the cause of religion no doubt brought too soon the close of what would have been a most brilliant career. In this country the family numerically is on the decrease. Over in Wales, where once dwelt the pioneer William, the ancestral fields, once fertile and green, are today covered by many homes. Strange names are borne by the people who tread the soil that the pioneer William bade farewell to more than two hundred and fifty years ago. Country hamlets have given way to bustling villages. In the shire town of Glamorganshire the great Cardiff library is the pride of Wales. Not long since the gifted librarian of this famous institution, at the request of the writer, made search there for the name of some

living descendant of the ancestral race. Books of present pedigree. dwellings of all leading places in that populous county of Glamorganshire were carefully examined, people were inquired of, but not a single person could be found bearing the name of Burritt, a name that in England still exists in modified form,—it now only lives as an American name of what has become purely an American family.

FAMILY OF ASENATH CURTIS.

Asenath Curtiss became the wife of Joseph Burritt 6, (see page 16).

Phineas Curtiss (1) is the first member of the Curtiss family whose name is recorded in the town records of East Haven Ct. It is recorded that he married Hannah Russell, May 28, 1759. Their children were :—

- i. Benjamin (2).
- ii. Abigail (2).

iii. Phineas (2), who m. Mary Chedsey.
July 4, 1787. and d. 1806. They
had :—

1. Polly (3), b. June 12. 1788.

2. Hannah (3), b. March 17
1790.

3. Russell 3, b. March 16, 1792.

4. Loly 3, b. Feb. 11, 1794.

5. Asenath, b. Feb. 28. 1796 :
she m. Joseph Burritt. June
17, 1816, and moved to Ith-
aca, N. Y. She was the
mother of Rev. Chas. D.
Burritt, who married Jeru-
sha Lord, and had Mary
Lord Burritt. She m. Geo.
E. Foster, and had Jesse
Webster Foster. Asenath
d. Feb. 7, 1844, aged 47
years, 11 months.

6. Benjamin 3, b. March 19, 1798.
7. Major 3, b. Dec. 20, 1800, who m. Ellen——, and moved to Ithaca.
8. John 3, b. April 26, 1802.
9. Susan 3, b. Feb. 11, 1804; she became Mrs. Mix, and moved to Ithaca.
10. Street 3, b. 1806, d. 1808.

PEDIGREE OF ELIHU BURRITT.

THE LEARNED BLACKSMITH.

1. William and wife Elizabeth had :—

Stephen in the line of Elihu.

John in line of Ithaca Burritts.

Mary, the progenitor of many Smiths.

2. Stephen m., 1673, Sarah, daughter of Isaac Nichols, son of Francis Nichols, who was son of Sergt. Francis Nichols from England.

He was a near relative of Colonel Richard Nicolle, the first English Governor of New York, who belonged to the famous Horse Guards of London.

Stephen was confirmed Ensign of the Train Band, 1672; made recorder of Stratford, 1673; made Lieutenant, 1675; also Commissary of Army; chosen Town Treasurer, 1689; Chairman of Committee on Wolf-killing; Town Auditor, 1690.

Children of Stephen and wife Sarah ;—

3. Elizabeth, b. July, 1675.

William, b. 29 May, 1677.

Peleg, b. 5. Oct., 1679, in direct
line of Rev. Blackleach Burritt

Josiah, b. 1681

Israel, b. 1687.

Charles, 1689. In line of Elihu.

Ephriam, b. 1693 :

Charles (3) had—

Daniel,

Charles,

Elihu.

4. Elihu (4) had Elihu,

Elihu (5) had Elijah, Elizabeth, Emily,
George and ELIHU, the learned Black-
smith.



PEN-ADDENDA.





THE BURRITT NAME.

In a previous chapter we have spoken at length concerning the probable connection of the Barrett and Burritt name. A subsequent investigation proves conclusively that the proposition that the name was of French origin is correct. We have shown how the French names were introduced into Wales at the time of the revocation of the edict of Nantes. Barrett is recorded as one of these names. In the era of French surname giving, there was unusual excitement in the religious world. At the close of the tenth century and the commencement of the eleventh, the number of persons bore a great disproportion to the number of personal names, and it was found necessary to add in all public acts a distinct appellation for the sake

of identifying individuals. Such names figure in great numbers in the records of all kingdoms of christendom up to the fourteenth century. By degrees this means of remedying the confusion became insufficient. Those sobriquets which described physical and moral qualities, habits, professions, and the place of birth were imposed on many, who bore the same name by baptism, and it was about that time that hereditary surnames became indispensable. It is said to be an unquestionable fact, that the higher order of purpled prelates, commonly called cardinals, had its rise in the 11th century, yet it did not acquire its stable and undisputed authority of a legal council before the following age and the pontificate of Alexander III. The cap and bonnet became a symbol of religious devoteism early in the eleventh century. In 1245, Innocent IV. granted the Cardinals the privilege of wearing the red cap as an emblem of their readiness to shed their

blood for the Catholic faith. But the red cap was not permitted to be worn by any except the cardinalate.—The secular clergy were distinguished by black leathern caps, the regulars by knit and worsted ones. A very early Frenchman, Patroillet, was the inventor of the square hat so long worn by students of the French universities, it was to denote that they had acquired full liberty, and were no longer subject to the rod of their superiors, in imitation of the ancient Romans, who gave a “pileus” to their slaves in the ceremony of making them free, *vocare servos ad pileum*. It will be seen that of necessity cap making must have been a most important industry in the very era of surname making. Camden informs us that after local names the most in number have derived from occupations or professions. There was no profession, no employment that did not give its designation to one or to many families. Lower says the practice of borrowing names from various occupations of life

is of high antiquity. "Thus the Romans had among them many persons, and those too of highest rank that bore names answering to 'potters, painters, etc.'" These names became, as we have said, hereditary in the eleventh or twelfth centuries. At this time the manufacture of caps became a leading occupation. The work on the Cardinals' caps, the caps of clergy of lesser degrees, for physicians and students required the skilled workmen; it was a distinctive trade. Those who made them in France were called Barrette. The Barrette was pictured on the sign, and the cap makers were people much honored by the people. To be the capmaker for the Cardinals was something highly desirable. A picture of a barrette (cap) on the sign board, soon gave the name Barrette to him who made the caps. Had our William of Stratford been the capmaker during the 11th century, his surname would have become Barrette, or the skilled capmaker. After the names had become

hereditary in France, these capmakers (Barrette) scattered into other countries, our ancestors went to Wales, as is told elsewhere in this volume, others went to England and Germany, where their names took various spellings still closely resembling the word Barrette, the original French. Mordaque in his famous book on nomenclature says that the etymology of hereditary names in England and Germany is generally the same as in France and Italy. The cap (Barrette) was still a leading business sign during the twelfth, thirteenth and fourteenth century, frequent mention of it can be found in England, but it no longer gave the name Barrette to those who did business beneath it. The cap was appropriated by people of other surnames, as indicative of their business, but the name Barrette still lived with numerous spellings. The family of Barrette, Barret, or kindred spellings still continued to be noted for their skill as cunning artificers and instead of

being makers of caps, weavers of hoods as they were in the eleventh and twelfth century, they now were inventors, they were famous for their knowledge of mechanism, just as the Ithaca families are to-day—who are jewelers. Just when our branch of the Barrette or Barratt family changed their family name to Burritt is not exactly known, but it was not done without a reason. The lineal name has been always an honorable one, a synonym of honesty and integrity. It is very doubtful if the name Burritt would have been in existence to-day if it had not been for the arising of a class of knaves that were given a sobriquet that closely resembled the ancient name of Barrette. In the sixteenth and seventeenth century the term barratry became a by-word and synonym of knavery throughout the world, they who practiced barratry were often for short called barrets. In England barratry was the offence of stirring up frequent suits and quarrels

among his majesty's subjects; in Italy it was applied to the traffic of ecclesiastical beneficiaries and later it was applied to all corrupt buying and selling of justice; in Scotland it signified the corrupt purchasing of benefices or offices of corruption from the see of Rome—it was an act to prevent the free elections of the monks in the monasteries. In France, any fraud practiced by the masters of vessels was accounted barratry and severely punished. It was a term in England, and every commercial state in Europe that had the meaning of piracy, and was recognized by an act of Congress of the United States as late as 1804. It is nothing strange that the term barratry and they who were called barrett because they practiced it should have been distasteful to the descendants of the Barrette of France who felt a pride in all that pertained to a long established and honorable name, and some families, our own included, desir-

ing to have in their name no semblance of dishonor began calling themselves Burritt, which was the name borne by William who came to Stratford from Glamorganshire at a time when barratry was a term hated by all good citizens.

